

COUNCILMAN MARK KERSEY

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE FIFTH DISTRICT



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2017 Reflections and 2018 Outlook



In 2017, we continued to make the City of San Diego and District Five a better place to live and do business. Some of my 2017 highlights include:

- [Successfully advocated to make permanent the Fast Response Squad in San Pasqual Valley, which improves Fire-Rescue Department response times not only in the valley but throughout the northeastern part of the City](#)
- [Hosted Conversation + Craft Beer with Second Chance Brewery](#)
- [First City elected official to endorse the Shea-Seidler plan to immediately house San Diego's homeless in Sprung tents](#)
- [Approved new contractor requirements to ensure paver's quality of work on City streets](#)
- [Celebrated milestone of 655 miles of road paved in 28 months, putting us well ahead of schedule on Mayor Faulconer's pledge to pave 1,000 miles in 5 years](#)
- [Dedicated "Final Point" monument honoring the late Jas Arnold at the Trail for All People, the first fully ADA accessible trail in San Diego](#)
- [Partnered with Becky's Gift to donate toys to families undergoing cancer treatment during the holidays](#)

Additionally, Prop H or Rebuild San Diego, the Charter amendment I authored to create a dedicated infrastructure funding stream without raising taxes, secured [\\$17.8 million for City infrastructure improvements in its first year](#).

In 2018, public safety and infrastructure remain my top two priorities as core government responsibilities. There are currently more than [200 open positions in the San Diego Police Department](#), and the Mayor and Council are taking the aggressive steps necessary to tackle this recruitment and retention crisis. By [increasing police officer pay](#) 25-30%, we are on track to fully staff our police force for the first time in over a decade.

Now that marijuana is legal statewide, my focus is on implementing the will of voters in the safest way possible and minimizing impacts to our communities. Measure N, the cannabis business tax I authored and voters overwhelmingly approved in 2016, provides critical funding for enforcement and ensures that other City services do not suffer due to costs associated with recreational marijuana.

For 2018, I was reappointed Chair of the City Council Infrastructure Committee, a role in which I have served since the committee's creation in 2012. In that time, we have made great progress in chipping away at San Diego's infrastructure backlog and improving the City's approach to capital projects, but there is more work to be done. A decade ago, the City only repaired 25 miles of streets in an entire year; now we do more than that in a month. I remain strongly committed to streamlining bureaucratic red tape, because saved time and money can be reinvested back into our neighborhoods.

We recently awarded a \$10 million contract that includes 200 sections or 35 miles of street resurfacing throughout the City of San Diego. I have relentlessly advocated for the communities of District Five, and this contract includes key roads in Carmel Mountain Ranch, Rancho Bernardo, Rancho Peñasquitos and Scripps Ranch. I will keep you posted on construction dates as they are confirmed.

I am honored to represent District 5 and look forward to a productive 2018. Happy New Year.



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Flu Season



There have already been 91 flu-related deaths reported in San Diego County this season. Follow the tips at http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/hhsa/programs/phs/immunization_branch/flu_update.html to make sure you and your family stay healthy.

The flu has affected me and my family in a very personal way, which is why I feel so strongly about the importance of getting a flu shot. All local health providers give flu shots, and the County of San Diego has special clinics for those without health insurance. Call 2-1-1 to find your nearest clinic or visit <http://211sandiego.org/>

Torrey Meadows Neighborhood Park Officially Opens to the Public



The Torrey Meadows Neighborhood Park is officially open to the public. Complete with picnic tables, shade structures, two children's play areas, a half basketball court and plenty of open space, the 5.3 acre park is a welcomed addition to the communities of Torrey Highlands, Black Mountain Ranch and Rancho Peñasquitos.

Have you visited the park yet? Share your pictures with me on my Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CouncilmanMarkKersey/> or Twitter [@markkerseySD](https://twitter.com/markkerseySD).



Residential Water Survey Program

[The Residential Water Survey Program](https://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation) is a service offered through the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department to help you save water inside and outside your home and lower your utility bill. This is provided, without additional cost, to all single and multi-family water customers in the City of San Diego. For information and appointments, call 619-570-1999 or visit <https://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation>.

WD-40 Relocates to Scripps Ranch



Scripps Ranch is now home to the world headquarters of WD-40. Their product has been a game changer for people across all trades since 1953. I welcomed them to District Five with a Citywide proclamation and thanked them for their commitment to staying and growing in San Diego. (Picture credit: [Guided by Imagination](#))

Raising Drugged Driving Awareness



Councilmember Georgette Gomez and I proclaimed December to be 'Drugged Driving Awareness Month' in the City of San Diego. According to a 2015 report by the Governors Highway Safety Association, 43% of motorists who died in car accidents tested positive for drugs in their system vs 37% of motorists who tested positive for alcohol. There are hundreds of different recreational and prescription drugs that all have different effects on a person, but all can be equally dangerous when someone gets behind the wheel. We commend SAY San Diego and the Mental Health Systems, North Inland Community Prevention teams for their work in the community to spread drugged driving awareness.

Giving Back to the Community: Becky's Gift



In the spirit of giving back during the holiday season, I joined Scripps Ranch families at UCSD Moores Cancer Center to drop off more than 200 toys for kids who were undergoing cancer treatment. [Becky's Gift](#) was started eight years ago when Becky Walton and Christie Jackson saw how difficult the holidays can be for those affected by cancer. It was my pleasure to partner with them, collecting and donating toys to make Christmas a little better for these families.

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Community Calendar

Scripps Ranch Farmers Market
Saturdays | Innovations Academy Parking Lot
<http://www.srfm.org/>

2018 Business Recycling Award Applications
Jan 9—Feb 9
<https://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/business/advantage>

Deadline— Christmas Tree Recycling
Jan 23 | Multiple Locations
<https://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/events/christmas>

Master Plan Update— Open House
Jan 24 | Energy Innovation Center
<https://www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding/overview/master-plan>

Stargazing
Jan 26 | East end of Stonebridge Parkway
<https://www.scrippsrancho.org/2015-02-12-17-20-46/icalrepeat.detail/2018/01/26/25596/-/stargazing%20>

Girl Scout Cookie Sales Begin
Jan 28
<http://www.sdgirlscouts.org/>

Community Yoga
Jan 31 | Rancho Penasquitos Library
<http://sandiego.librarymarket.com/community-yoga-43>

Deadline— Economic Development Funding Program
Feb 5
<https://www.sandiego.gov/economic-development/about/funding>

Feedback Needed

Your responses to this survey will help me better understand your needs as a resident of the City of San Diego. Please take a moment to complete the survey today at <http://bit.ly/sdconstituentsurvey>



Proud to Represent District Five of San Diego

Black Mountain Ranch | Carmel Mountain Ranch | Miramar Ranch North | Rancho Bernardo
Rancho Encantada | Rancho Peñasquitos | Sabre Springs | San Pasqual
Scripps Miramar Ranch | Torrey Highlands



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